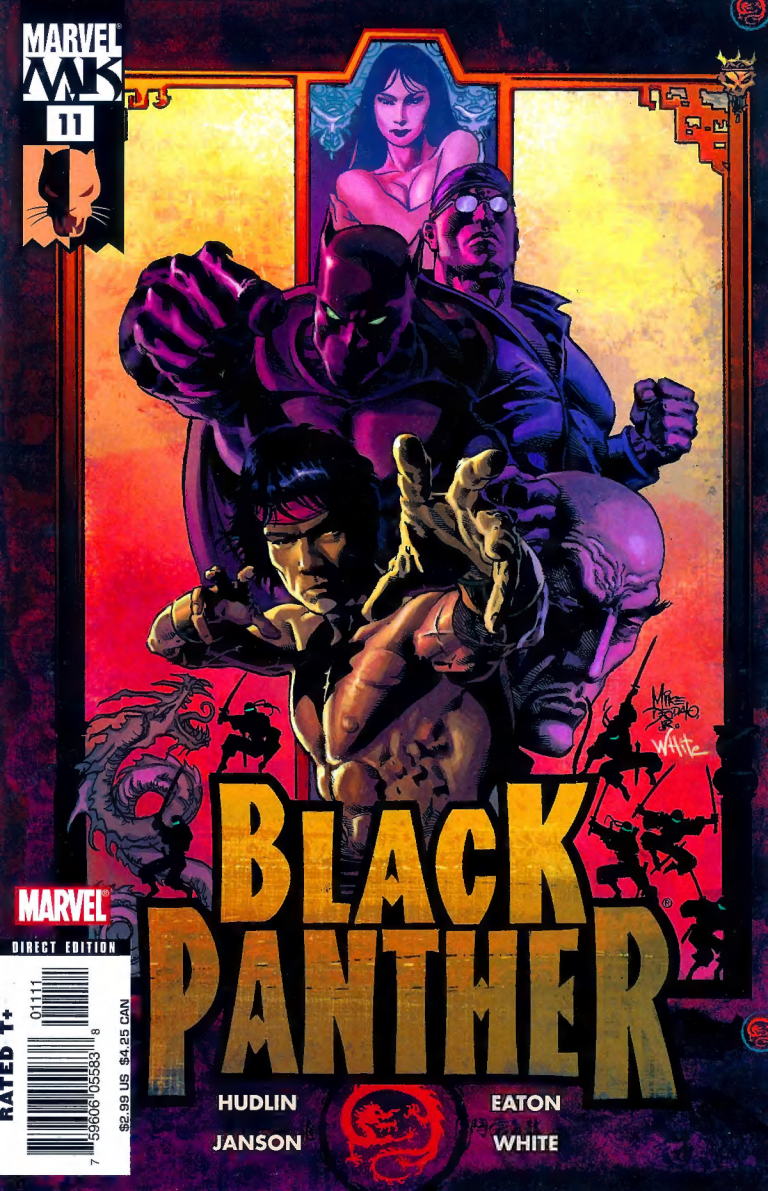
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BLACK PANTHER
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PREVIOUSLY

There are some places you just don't mess with. Wakanda is one of them. Since the dawn of time, that African warrior nation has been sending would-be conquerors home in body bags. While the rest of Africa got carved up like a Christmas turkey by the rest of the world, Wakanda's cultural evolution has gone unchecked for centuries, unfettered by the yoke of colonization. The result: A hi-tech, resource-rich, ecologically-sound paradise that makes the rest of the world seem primitive by comparison.

Ruling over all this is the Black Panther.

The Black Panther is more than just the embodiment of a warrior cult that's served as Wakanda's religious, political and military head since its inception. The Black Panther is the embodiment of the ideals of a people. Anyone who'd dare to make a move on Wakanda must go through him.

Every kingdom must have its Queen, and T'Challa's mother has decided it is time for him to choose a wife. The Black Panther has set out to find his true love; however, an alliance with Wakanda is a powerful thing. Every up-and-comer with an eligible daughter and an eye towards moving up in the global game is looking for T'Challa...with ninjas.

Now it's time to see what T'Challa, teamed with the Avenger's Luke Cage, has to say to them.

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TWO THE HARD WAY! PART TWO

INDECENT PROPOSAL

REGINALD HUDLIN WRITER | SCOT EATON PENCILS | KLAUS JANSON INKS | DEAN WHITE COLORS | VC'S RANDY GENTILE LETTERS | MIKE DEODATO, JR. COVER | CORY SEDLMEIER ASST. EDITOR | AXEL ALONSO EDITOR | JOE QUESADA EDITOR IN CHIEF | DAN BUCKLEY PUBLISHER

URGHK!
SPLUNCH
YOU BROKE MY WINDOW, PUNK!
WHO SENT YOU?
WHUD WHUD
DO AS WE COMMAND, AND YOU WILL BE GRACED WITH OUR MASTER'S PRESENCE.
HE COULDN'T JUST CALL THE OFFICE AND MAKE AN APPOINTMENT?

ANSWER ME! WHO SENT YOU?
THE HAND?
WHACK
CHUD
WE ARE SUPPOSED TO BRING YOU IN ALIVE--
SLASH
--BUT ACCIDENTS HAPPEN!
SHINK
WHAK
THE MANDARIN?
UHM...I THINK WE NEED MORE MEN.

WHY THE DRAMA? WE GOT CELL PHONES, PAGERS, DOORBELLS...
SILENCE! WE ONLY NEED THE PANTHER! YOU ARE A FOOL WHO WILL SOON PAY FOR YOUR--
MY SWORD!
I AIN'T INVITED? FINE, THEN.
KRAAK
GET OUT OF MY HOUSE, FOOL!
THE MASTER DOESN'T CARE ABOUT THIS ONE, SO...
BLAMM!
OW!
I'M A START WITH YOUR HAND, AND MOVE DOWN FROM THERE.

OH MAN, THAT IS ONE BIG SHIP.
WE GOT TO CUT THIS OFF AT THE SOURCE.
MY COUCH!
WHACK
DO YOU KNOW HOW MANY GOOD TIMES I HAD ON THAT COUCH? I HAD THE BLACK CAT ON THAT COUCH!
UH, PANTHER...?
WHAT?
WHY'S NO ONE COME THROUGH THE FRONT DOOR YET?

NO ADMITTANCE!
DING
GREAT. NOW THEY'RE USING THE ELEVATOR, TOO.
URHGK! NO!
CHIK CHIK CHIK
SPACK
OOO, THAT'S NASTY.
WHAK

LEAVE OR DIE!
I SAID OUT!
YO, DUDE IS NICE AGAINST THOSE NINJAS.
FOR REAL, THOUGH.
PAWN

YOU ARE GOOD, PANTHER, BUT WE ARE MANY.
SKRASHH!!
SMASH
YOU ARE TOO LATE. THE PANTHER IS OURS.
WHHHHHHHR
WHAT THE---?
WHAM!

FWOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOSH
BLAM BLAM BLAM
WHAT ARE YOU DOIN', FOOL?
MY MAN LUKE'S UP IN THERE. GOTTA HELP A BROTHA OUT.
DID ANYONE CALL THE POLICE?
THEY WON'T EVEN ARREST DRUG DEALERS, BUT THEY GONNA FIGHT *NINJAS?* I DON'T *THINK* SO.
WHAT JUST HAPPENED HERE?
UHM. YOUR BUDDIES GOT SNATCHED UP IN THAT...UHM, FLOAT.
MY *"BUDDIES"?*
BLACK PANTHER AND LUKE CAGE.
WHAT? Y'ALL AIN'T COOL OR SOMETHIN'?
"FLY, *ROBIN*, FLY."
THAT THERE'S THE *FALCON*, FOOL.
I KNOW THAT! YOU THINK I DON'T *KNOW* THAT?
THERE IS NO WAY HE'S GONNA CATCH THAT SHIP.

PANTHER, CAN YOU HEAR ME? THE AIR'S GETTING THIN, AND I THINK THEY'RE ABOUT TO--
BOOM
AHHHHHHHHH!!!
FWOOOOOOOOSH
W'BAKI, ARE YOU TRACKING HIM ON SATELLITE?
I HAD HIM, BUT WHEN THEY ENTERED LOW EARTH ORBIT, THEY JUST DROPPED OFF THE SCREEN.
SOME KIND OF CLOAKING TECHNOLOGY. WE'LL EXAMINE THEIR TRAJECTORY AND SEE IF WE CAN COME UP WITH ANY LIKELY DESTINATIONS.

RIGHT. WE'LL HEAD BACK TO THE EMBASSY AND TAKE A SHIP FROM THERE.
BRING THE CAR AROUND.
WHAT'S THAT UP THERE?
THE FALCON. TOLDJA HE WOULDN'T CATCH THAT SHIP.
IS HE FALLING? I THINK HE'S FALLING!
HEY, DO THOSE TWO HAVE POWERS? THEY LOOK LIKE THEY DO. MAYBE THEY COULD SAVE HIM.
YOU ASK 'EM! THOSE FEMALES LOOK ROUGH.
OKAY, THIS IS BAD.
WHEW.
SEE, THAT'S WHY I DON'T MESS AROUND WITH THOSE PLANES. FLYING IS DANGEROUS, MAN!
WHAT THE HELL'RE YOU TALKIN' ABOUT?

YOU OKAY, SON?
I'M FINE, THANKS.
YO, I CAN'T BELIEVE THE BLACK PANTHER, LUKE CAGE AND THE FALCON ALL ON MY BLOCK ON THE SAME NIGHT!
ARE YOU GONNA DO SOMETHING ABOUT ALL THESE NINJAS LYING AROUND? IT'S A HEALTH HAZARD!
SO WHO'S PAYING FOR MY CAR? IT'S TOTALED!
UH...
'SCUSE ME, FOLKS! MIND THE WINGS!
YOU KNOW WHAT WOULD BE COOL? IF Y'ALL GOT TOGETHER AND MADE A BLACK SUPER-TEAM!
THAT'S A GREAT IDEA! THEY CAN ARREST YOUR DRUG-DEALING BEHINDS!
HEY, THIS GUN IS JUST FOR SELF-DEFENSE. IT'S DANGEROUS OUT HERE ON THESE STREETS!

MEANWHILE, SOMEWHERE IN CHINA.
THAT IS A COMPLETELY INAPPROPRIATE DRESS!
BUT, MASTER, THIS IS WHAT YOUNG LADIES WEAR THESE DAYS--
I HAVE FOLLOWED FASHION FOR FOUR HUNDRED YEARS! I KNOW CLASSIC ELEGANCE WHEN I SEE IT! NOW CHANGE!
MASTER, THE DRAGON VESSEL IS ABOUT TO DOCK. BUT THE CRAFT DOESN'T RESPOND TO ANY CALLS. WE HAVEN'T HEARD FROM THEM IN AN HOUR.
WHAT?!
LOOK, FATHER-- IT'S THE DRAGON SHIP OF F--
SSSSHHH, CHILD! [redacted] SPEAK THAT NAME!
WHAT ABOUT THE MAN CLIMBING THE MOUNTAIN?
HUSH CHILD, NO MAN CAN CLIMB THAT SHEER CLIFF FACE. IT'S IMPOSS--
CHILD, YOU ARE RIGHT! WHO COULD DO SUCH A THING?

FWOOOOOSH

INSPECT THE SHIP!

MASTER, WE HAVE A... SITUATION.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "SITUATION"?

SEARCH THE ENTIRE FACILITY! FIND THEM!
DON'T BOTHER.

AND YOUR CAPACITY FOR TREACHERY AND DESTRUCTION EXCEEDS YOUR REPUTATION.
HOLD ON-- YOU KNOW THIS DUDE?
OF COURSE. HE IS THE ORIGINAL SCHEMING ASIAN WARLORD THAT DREAMS OF CONQUERING THE WORLD. HE IS THE INFAMOUS F--
AH, T'CHALLA, PLEASE PARDON MY EARLIER RUDENESS.
I INSTRUCTED MY MEN TO MAKE SURE YOU WERE NOT AN IMPOSTER. IF THEY WERE TOO ZEALOUS IN THEIR ATTEMPT TO AUTHENTICATE YOUR ABILITIES, I APOLOGIZE. YOUR FIGHTING SKILLS EXCEED YOUR CONSIDERABLE REPUTATION.
UH-UH-UH! I NO LONGER GO BY THAT NAME. IT WAS A SILLY TITLE GIVEN TO ME BY IGNORANT WESTERNERS THAT SIMPLY MEANT "MAN OF MANCHU DYNASTY."
EVERY HUNDRED YEARS OR SO, I LIKE TO DO A "MAKEOVER," AS THE AMERICANS SAY. NOW I AM SIMPLY KNOWN AS "HAN."
"HAN"? LIKE THE BAD GUY IN "ENTER THE DRAGON"? YOU'RE KIDDING, RIGHT?
WHAT IS IT YOU WANT, HAN?
WANT? I AM AWARE OF YOUR SEARCH FOR A PERFECT BRIDE--
OH, YOU GOT TO BE KIDDING ME...
--AND UNLIKE YOUR RUDE AMERICAN FRIEND, MEN SUCH AS YOU AND I NEED A WOMAN THAT IS BEAUTIFUL, OBEDIENT, BUT MOST IMPORTANTLY...
...A WOMAN WHO CAN SERVE AS A BRIDGE, MERGING TWO MIGHTY EMPIRES INTO ONE!
T'CHALLA OF WAKANDA...

...MEET KWAI FAR!
MY DAUGHTER.
A PRECIOUS FLOWER THAT WILL MAKE YOUR WILDEST DREAMS COME TRUE!
FU...I MEAN HAN, THIS IS AN UNEXPECTED AND GENEROUS PROPOSAL.... TO OFFER ME YOUR DAUGHTER IS QUITE AN HONOR.
AND NOT THE FUGLY DAUGHTER EITHER. [redacted] FINE!
KWAI FAR [redacted] TRAINED TO BE THE PERFECT WIFE AND MOTHER. FURTHERMORE, MY SCIENTISTS HAVE A METHOD THAT WILL GUARANTEE MALE CHILDREN. SONS THAT WILL RULE TWO CONTINENTS--AFRICA AND ASIA.
SO WHAT DO YOU THINK?

HAN...YOUR DAUGHTER IS BEAUTIFUL...BUT MY HEART... IT...
...BELONGS TO ANOTHER.
HEART? HEART?!
I OFFER MY DAUGHTER TO YOU, A SUBHUMAN APE, AND YOU REJECT HER?
WHY YOU GOTTA GO RACIAL ALL OF A SUDDEN? JUST SAY "TO HELL WITH YOU" AND CALL IT A DAY. 'CAUSE NOW I GOTTA TAX YOU.
YOU THINK YOU CAN INSULT ME LIKE THIS AND LIVE?
ACTUALLY, YOU JUST INSULTED US.
HAN, DON'T MAKE A BAD SITUATION WORSE. I DON'T WANT TO HURT YOU IN FRONT OF YOUR DAUGHTER.
AND YOU! I DISOWN YOU, YOU WORTHLESS HAG! YOU CAN'T EVEN SEDUCE A LUST-DRIVEN HAK GWAE!
SMAK
NOT ANOTHER FEMALE GETTING SLAPPED! THAT'S TWICE IN 24 HOURS!
STEP ASIDE, OR JOIN YOUR MASTER IN THE HOSPITAL.
LEAVE MY SISTER ALONE!

NOW WHO'S THAT?
SHANG CHI. HAN'S SON. IRON FIST NEVER INTRODUCED YOU?
NOPE.
INTERESTING.
WHAT?
I MEAN NO DISRESPECT TO YOUR FRIEND IRON FIST--HIS "CHI" IS VERY POWERFUL--BUT SHANG CHI IS THE *MASTER* OF KUNG FU.
ARE YOU SAYING DANNY IS HATING ON SHANG CHI? THAT'S SOME BULL!
I'M NOT TRYING TO CAST ASPERSIONS ON YOUR FRIEND. I'M JUST SAYING IN THE MARTIAL ARTS COMMUNITY, BOTH ARE RESPECTED, BUT SHANG CHI...
WHATEVER MAN, I AIN'T TRYING TO HEAR ALL THAT.
GO AWAY, BOY, I'M IN A BAD MOOD. I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR YOUR STUPIDITY TODAY.
I TRAVELED HALFWAY AROUND THE WORLD, CLIMBED A MOUNTAIN AND FOUGHT A DRAGON TO SAVE MY SISTER. WHY WOULD I STOP NOW?
SUCH IMPUDENCE!
THIS IS YOUR MOTHER'S FAULT.

WHAAAK
GET BEHIND ME.
I APPRECIATE THE OFFER, BUT DON'T WORRY...
...THOSE BULLETS WON'T LEAVE THEIR CHAMBERS.
TEK
BOOM
BOOM
DANG!
NOW LET'S FINISH THIS.

YO, PANTHER! OL' DUDE IS GETTING AWAY!
APPARENTLY.
I CAN'T SEE A THING. CAN YOU?
THERE IS SOMETHING ELSE IN THE TUNNEL...
GET OUT OF HERE-- NOW!
WHAT IS IT? I MEAN, IT TAKES A LOT TO HURT ME.

DON'T SAY NOTHIN'. YOU WERE RIGHT, LET'S LEAVE IT AT THAT.
I *TOLD* YOU I FOUGHT A DRAGON--
I THOUGHT YOU WERE SPEAKING METAPHORICALLY!
MY DEEPEST APOLOGIES, MR. PANTHER. BUT PLEASE UNDERSTAND, DESPITE MY FATHER'S MANIPULATIONS, I ONLY WENT ALONG WITH IT BECAUSE, WELL, I REALLY *DO* LIKE YOU.
THE BLACK PANTHER IS A MAN OF HONOR. I WOULD HAVE NO OBJECTION.
AHEM!
T'CHALLA? A WORD?
LOOK...I JUST WANT YOU TO *THINK* BEFORE YOU ANSWER HERE. THIS GIRL IS *INSANELY* BEAUTIFUL...AND I BET HAN WASN'T LYING ABOUT HER ABILITIES TO PLEASE HER MAN.
COULD IT *HURT* TO GO OUT ON A DATE WITH HER?
TO BE CONTINUED...